

Q. Governor, as the titular head of the party, how do you view the race now in Baltimore? With any degree of distress?

A. No, I don't view it with any degree of distress. I think when Arthur Sherwood entered that race he was aware that he had a tough uphill battle against a Democratic candidate who had no serious primary opposition. And it's unrealistic of us as Republicans to say we've got anything other than a very difficult situation where this exists. Mr. Sherwood went into the fight knowing this. I think he is running a good campaign. I think he's doing everything he can possibly do. What's going to happen in the last weeks of the campaign, of course, will as always make the crucial points. And the matter is wide open yet, as I see it. Certainly, the situation in the second district should give Mr. Sherwood a measure of comfort and optimism.

Q. Wouldn't you find Mayor McKeldin's support of Mr. Sherwood curious?

A. Well, I don't want to comment on whether it's curious or not because, honestly, Mayor McKeldin has always been a very individualistic man with regard to his political inclinations. He's unique, and when you start to comment on the Mayor, you're characterizing something that defies an accurate description. I just don't want to attempt to say what's behind the Mayor's thinking with regard to Mr. Sherwood.

Q. In the closing days of the campaign, Governor, have you been asked by Mr. Sherwood or any other members of the Republican Party to appear on TV or radio or to make any speeches for him?

A. No, I haven't as yet been asked this, but, of course, if Mr. Sherwood wants me to appear for him, I'll do everything I can to be of assistance to him.

Q. Governor, has Mrs. Keith apologized to you for this fracas about Government House?

A. Well, no, Mrs. Keith hasn't apologized. She took the trouble to write a very nice letter to the editor explaining how the mixup occurred. And I'm not certain that the apology is necessarily on her shoulders. It was a general confusion attendant on this situation, complicated by our absence from Government House at the time. I don't place any responsibility on Historic Annapolis for what happened. We don't ask for any apology. The only thing we're interested in is having it clarified, because there has been a great amount of comment that Government House was attempting to charge a fee. And, of course, this is totally incorrect.